

# ROTC GATEWAY DETACHMENT

## Gateway Gazette

Spring/Summer 2018


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## Letter from the Professor of Military Science



Greetings to the entire Gateway Family,

As you will read in the pages of this semester's Gateway Gazette, this has been a fast-paced year filled with many opportunities for personal growth and leader development. I am continually amazed at the dedication and commitment of the cadets of the Gateway Detachment. They are absolutely committed to each other and to preparing for the task of serving our nation as 2nd Lieutenants! I would like to extend my personal thanks to the class of 2018 for their leadership and service within the Detachment. Our MS III (Junior) class is absolutely ready to take on Advance Camp this summer thanks to your efforts!

This summer will be one of transition for the cadre of the Gateway Detachment. We will bid farewell to MSG Rabon, MAJ Harris, CPT Copeland, and SSG Wyrick. The hard work and dedication of these phenomenal leaders and trainers will be sorely missed. Each cadet and officer that they've trained serves as their legacy. We cannot thank them enough for their service at the Gateway Detachment and our country.

We are also deeply indebted to our alumni and families who continue to support us through mentoring relationships, professional insights, and financial support. If you'd be willing to mentor a cadet or would like to make a financial contribution, please contact me at [matthew.e.snell@wustl.edu](mailto:matthew.e.snell@wustl.edu). Don't forget that financial donations to the Gateway Battalion are tax deductible (see the last page for details). All your support goes directly to fund cadet activities, travel and additional training opportunities. We would not be as successful as we are without your continued support. I encourage you to follow our activities and accomplishments on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/GatewayROTC>).

- Matthew E. Snell, LTC, Professor of Military Science



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## Letter from the Cadet Battalion Commander



Cadets, Alumni, Family, and Friends of the Gateway Battalion,

I hope this issue of the Gazette finds you well and on your way to successfully wrapping up this 2017-2018 academic year. You have accomplished so much throughout these months together, and let me just say that your efforts are not lost on me, the rest of the outgoing MSIVs, or the cadre. As cadets, we ask a lot of you: to practice moral and ethical leadership, to not only meet, but exceed, expectations in personal fitness, and to always set a higher standard as future Officers of the U.S. Army. And we ask you to do this while weathering the social and academic maelstrom that is the college experience. Thank you for doing all of this to the best of your abilities—the country asks much of you, but from seeing your hard work and dedication this year, I know it will be getting much in return.

Do not let up this summer. If you will be attending Basic Camp, Advanced Camp, Airborne, CULP, or any other training opportunities, make the most of your preparation time now, and ensure that you are open to growing while you are there. If you will be returning home, working, interning, or even just enjoying the company of family and friends, put your back into it. Commit to something that develops you as a leader this summer, and, of course, always maintain your fitness. We need you back healthy and ready for greater challenges and responsibilities in the fall.

Thank you for your fierce commitment this academic year, Gateway. You are a tremendous part of the 'good' which makes this country great, and it has been an honor to learn and grow alongside each and every one of you.

Train to Lead!

Sincerely,

Peter H. Leach, Outgoing Cadet Battalion Commander

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## The 100th Class of Gateway Commissioning Officers



Brooks, Morgan Nicole - Reserve/USAR - Medical Service Corps

Goodwin, II, Stanley Gene - Reserve/USAR - Military Intelligence

Hammond, Conor Alan - Active Duty - Infantry Corps

Hoel, Tracey Eileen - Reserve/USAR - Finance Corps

Leach, Peter Hopewell - Active Duty - Military Intelligence

Murray, Lauren Kathleen - Reserve/USAR - Nursing Corps

O'Halloran, Cormac Simmons - Active Duty - Military Intelligence

Simcoke, Robert Dolsen - Reserve/NG - Transportation

Uchiyama, Matthew James - Active Duty - Infantry Corps

Whitted, Ashlin Tutashi - Reserve/NG - Military Intelligence

Windmiller, Alexander Appleton - Active Duty - Armor Corps

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of several overlapping orange and yellow geometric shapes, including triangles and rectangles.

## Military Ball



CDT Goodwin, Maryville University

The St. Louis Metropolitan Area is not very large in comparison to other major cities, so one would think that there would be more interaction between the ROTC battalions in the area. Upon my entering the ROTC Military Ball and noticing all the cadets and cadre from the schools/battalions in the area, I was surprised to learn how little formal or informal contact we had among one another outside of joint field training exercises. However, upon my further communicating with other cadets at my table, I understood how Army training is universal since many of our experiences within ROTC resembled each other.

While one can say that the purpose of the ROTC military ball was the opportunity for Army and Air Force ROTC cadets and cadre to socialize in a formal setting. However, I believe that ROTC Military Ball was also the opportunity for cadets to actually take part in a formal military function while having the rare opportunity to be in the presence of a Lieutenant General. Due to the fact that general grade officers have an extremely complex schedule, it is rare that junior-grade officers and junior enlisted will have the opportunity to have any type of face-to-face contact with such a senior staff member. In the case of the ROTC Military Ball, cadets and lower-ranking individuals had the opportunity of hearing LTG Flournoy, and some were fortunate enough to actually converse with him.

As a future military officer, I know that there will be times that I will be tasked with organizing a large event that will involve military and civilian personnel. The anticipated end state is ensuring that all parties leave with a positive experience. The military ball revealed to me the logistical considerations that I will encounter as an officer. Certain things such as ensuring personnel are in the proper uniform and to standard, ensuring that individuals practice proper dinner etiquette, overseeing that the food being served is in acceptable to individuals dietary requests and needs, and most importantly, making sure that the event was an enjoyable experience for everyone.







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— EST. 1818 —

## MSIV Staff Ride to Pilot Knob Battlefield

CDT Rau, Saint Louis University

I learned many lessons from the staff ride to Pilot Knob. I enjoyed how we were able to see the importance of integrating self study with field study in order to gain a broader perspective. History is not necessarily my forte, but to draw a parallel between a battle that happened during the Civil War to my leadership attributes was quite astonishing. It made me realize how important it is to analyze the past because yesterday's fight could help mitigate the failures of tomorrow's mission. My favorite aspect of the learning process was visualizing the challenge Brigadier General Ewing was presented with while conducting a defensive posture. Having a unit which was completely inexperienced and small in numbers helped me realize how well he and his subordinates led their troops.

Many of these lessons can be utilized in my future as an Army officer. I want to be able to take my soldiers on a staff ride when I'm at my unit so that they can understand the importance of their mission in which our country has entrusted with them. I feel that it can boost morale and serve as a tool to foster an environment of camaraderie. Specifically to the staff ride conducted at Pilot Knob, the Union forces were able to use the terrain to their advantage, even being on the low ground, by massing their fires in specific directions. I feel that the analogy can be used as a parallel to how we fight as an operating force today. The enemy will majority of the time know the terrain better, especially if I am operating in their country, so it is important to utilize tactics and techniques in the most efficient way regardless of the advantage. In order to do that it takes a disciplined leader.

All the information gained from the staff ride has prompted me to understand many of the strengths and weaknesses I possess prior to my commissioning. For example, it is important to see the second and third order of effects when conducting a mission. A disciplined leader has to visualize how to regain the initiative in a defensive posture or retain it in an offensive posture. It easier said than done, and I hope that I will have the opportunity to work on practicing the task so that I can be an organized and efficient leader. Also, Pilot Knob has made me realize the importance of maintaining alertness as a leader

when conducting a mission. The confederate soldiers could have easily pushed into the rear element of the Union soldiers when there were escaping in the middle of the night. But, they decided to stay and sleep, ultimately leading to an unpleasant surprise in the morning.







## Spring Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX)

CDT Kliethermes, Lindenwood University

What is a Spring JFTX? It's a Joint Field Training Exercise. This year we, Gateway BN, were located at Sparta, Illinois with Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville/Carbondale. With our three schools, we endured an extended three-day weekend from early morning Friday to late evening Sunday to accomplish missions, OPORDs, PLT comraderie, various training, and a 12-mile ruck march, all under the lovely Spring thunderstorms and actively training in wet weather.

Why do we do this? I think this is one of our most essential training operations for cadets and soon-to-be 2LTs because it requires planning, preparation, and continuous execution to be a success. This hands on/in the field training helps every single MS level across the board. MS 1s/2s not only get a chance to experience some of their first field training, but also have the opportunity to conduct missions and see first-hand how the MS3

cadets execute leadership. This gives MS3 cadets the chance to apply their knowledge first hand to successfully conduct a mission with constructive criticism and enables the MS4 cadets to effectively manage how training management evolves within these three schools.

In the field, you experience fatigue and the stress of what it would be like to execute a mission; however, you are able to fail which is a good thing. It may sound weird, but if you are given an opportunity to learn from your mistakes as an individual, you grow from the constructive criticism. You build a bond with the cadets from your school as well as get to meet and experience this training with new cadets from the two other schools. You work as a platoon that's more like a family, because in the end you are one team. Especially when you get 4 hours of sleep, paddling through ankle deep mud with gear to really form that personal bond with your friends. You endure the success of an assault, ambush, or raid, as well as figure out what your strengths and weaknesses are for self-growth. The JFTX offers every CDT to emotionally, physically, and mentally overcome the obstacles they may face as a future officer with the chance to learn in a training environment prepping them for their future career.



## MSIII Range Fire: MSIV Planning Perspective

CDT Windmiller, Washington University in St. Louis



I was lucky enough to serve as the cadet in charge of the MS3 range. Although I did not conduct much of range's planning, preparation, or execution, I did have a closer view to observe the whole process. It was a little tough at times to understand exactly what was occurring at all times given my familiarity with unit training in the regular Army, in addition to the speed and ease with which SSG Wyrick works. In fact, most of the lessons learned only became clear during the day of the range, when we got the chance to talk to different cadre as well as the Drill Sergeants about conducting ranges. Probably the most interesting and informative thing we saw was the similarities and differences between LTC Snell and SSG Wyrick's actions and advice on ranges. It was a classic example of the different ways NCOs and Officers approach the same problem. SSG Wyrick was in the thick of it the whole time. He was the cadre in charge and controlled the flow of the range the whole time, but he also clearly loved instructing cadets one-on-one and spent hours with one cadet until it clicked for her, and she was able to shoot the best score of the day. LTC Snell spent his time observing the entire process, constantly assessing but never getting too far into the weeds. SSG Wyrick's advice could be paraphrased as 'let your NCOs do what they do best, don't reinvent the wheel.' LTC Snell concurred with the importance of utilizing resources and plans that exist already but stressed the need to utilize the 8-step training process to evaluate any plan you execute, regardless of whether or not your NCOs have 'done it a thousand times.' As rewarding and fun as it might be, a platoon leaders job

on the range is not to spend three hours coaching one soldier, but constantly assessing the execution of the range, identifying current or potential problems, and being flexible enough to implement solutions to mitigate them. Trust your NCOs and their experience but verify their plan through your own lenses. You exist to enable them to succeed.

In the case of the range the application of lessons learned is fairly direct. We will run ranges as Platoon Leaders. A static

rifle range is about as basic as ranges come, but I imagine that the principles remain the same as they increase in complexity, as in tank gunnery.

One other excellent piece of advice to prepare for our own tests as range OICs was from MAJ Shaughnessy. He pointed out that even if a new platoon leader does most things right and the range is working relatively well, many NCOs don't want to give the new platoon leader a complete victory right out of the gate. They may start to introduce a little bit of **controlled** chaos to the situation. Be flexible and roll with the punches, just like SSG did when he changed up the flow of the lab.



## German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency

CDT Schneider, Saint Louis University



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In late April, Gateway Battalion sent 13 individuals to compete in the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency (GAFBMP) event at Central Methodist University. While most students were enjoying the nice weather and relaxing before their final exams, these individuals were pushing themselves to their physical limits to earn a bronze, silver, or gold badge. Before heading off to the competition, we had to pass a first aid test, pistol qualification, and a MOPP test. On the day of the event, we participated in 4 physical events including a 100m swim in uniform, 11x10m sprints, a flexed arm hang, and a 1000m run. Depending on how well we scored on the basic fitness tests, we rucked a set distance correlating to our personal standings (3.75 miles for bronze, 5.6 miles for silver, 7.5 miles for gold) with 35 pounds on our backs.

While the German Army Soldiers are required to take this test annually, other German military allies, including Americans, are allowed the opportunity to earn this badge. This badge is one of the few foreign awards that Army soldiers are allowed to wear on their ASU's (although this opportunity is also extended to the U.S. Marines, Air Force, and Navy). Being able to earn this badge is a well sought-after honor, of which all of us at Gateway were able to achieve. Thanks to the Ranger Buddy Challenge training, led by CDT Bachus, we all were well-prepared to bring home 4 silver and 9 gold medals. Our successes could not have been possible without the help of SSG Wyrick for his help in training all of us, as well as the support and guidance from SFC Johnson and CPT Flynn over the weekend.

Personally, I was extremely nervous going into this competition and had very bad nerves. Being a very lean person with minimal upper body strength, the flexed arm hang was the most daunting event to me. When it was my turn to go, my stomach was tying itself into dozens of knots. Thankfully, I had a fellow cadet there by my side distracting me so that I wouldn't be focusing on how much more time I needed to hang. This type of support was shown not only in this instance, but throughout the whole day from our battalion.

I witnessed each and every one of my fellow cadets push themselves to their limits with the rallying support of their peers behind them. This event not only enabled each of us to prove our physical abilities, but it also uncovered a key leadership attribute that we all portrayed: unwavering support. It was evident how much we cared for the success of each other when we proudly cheered on our peers for their achievements louder than any other school present during the awards presentation.

It is through this event, among other experiences throughout this year, that I see how well this battalion trains us to be great leaders. The GAFMPB qualification event gave us the platform to prove our physical aptitudes as well as allowed us to be an example to other schools of what it truly means to be a part of the Gateway Battalion family.



## Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP)

CDT Manjarress, Lindenwood University

Being a Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) cadet is a unique experience that has taught me so much about leadership. I obtained an SMP slot with the 3175th Chemical Company in Bridgeton, Missouri in September 2017. The 3175th CM CO is a Missouri National Guard unit that stands as a Focused Readiness Unit and is available for quick deployment should the need arise. I've had the opportunity to shadow two 2LTs serving as platoon leaders and stand in as acting platoon leader for 6 months. I learned that leading a platoon is a challenge, and that there is no right way to perform the duties of a platoon leader. My platoon sergeant was my best friend, and his ability to take care platoon's tasks allowed me to focus on developing training plans. The other platoon leaders of the company were also an extremely beneficial source of knowledge, and I made sure to ask them many questions about what I could do in a situation.

My SMP experience has allowed me to make mistakes and learn what to do to avoid future mistakes. I've realized there is much that I need to learn. For example, I learned that when the platoon sergeant is addressing the company formation and the commander takes over to address the formation, I must walk to the left of my platoon. I accidentally walked to the right of my platoon and provided a bit of entertainment to the company. I was embarrassed, but I laughed with everyone and took note of which side of the formation a platoon leader must walk on! I think that the opportunity to SMP has greatly increased my self-confidence. I've also realized that our ROTC battalion is doing an excellent job at providing us with the tools and knowledge to be successful officers. If you find yourself in the position to where you can obtain an SMP contract I urge you to take it. It sounds daunting at first, but you're a Gateway Cadet and you'll definitely rise to the challenge!





## ROTC and Engineering Extracurriculars



CDT Livingston, Washington University in St. Louis

Engineers like to solve problems. Leaders find solutions and demonstrate what is possible. Looking at these two professions, I see a lot of overlap. However, leadership is often not a focus on engineering curriculum. Combining these skill-sets of

solution-oriented thinking and turning vision into reality is a powerful tool, and one that I believe every engineering curriculum should embrace. My freshman year I took a class, EN120, that was my introduction to the engineering school, and there I became very passionate about positively influencing the engineering school.

Now, I serve as a senior course director for EN120, Washington University's Freshman Seminar for Engineering. This entails weekly meetings with the deans of the engineering school, weekly planning meetings with the course staff, teaching one class a week, and planning and executing a syllabus that we create. Just like in ROTC, EN120 has heavy student leadership and direction, and the benefit of this is that all the course directors have taken the course, and understand what being on the other side of a student is like.

As a senior course director, I have found prime opportunity in our syllabus to infuse military style leadership and teamwork lessons. After three years in the engineering school, I strongly believe that hitting the lessons of leadership, communication, and adaptability early lead to greater success in one's academic and extracurricular career. I've been lucky to be bounds ahead of my peers with leadership and decision making experience, which I have gained through my time in ROTC. Now, in a position that can exert utmost influence on what material freshman engineers are exposed to in their first semester of college, I am lucky to be in a position where I can ensure the freshman are exposed to the lessons I wish I learned earlier.

This year, I have made sure our syllabus integrates lessons that cover leadership styles and conflict management styles. Additionally, we have set up class projects so that there are various leadership positions in the projects that students will rotate through, much like leadership rotations in ROTC. Engineers can make a huge impact in school and careers with their technological abilities, but also possessing the soft skills of teamwork and leadership can make an engineer truly unbeatable. ROTC engineers are uniquely skilled with this combination, and I am opportunely in a position where that impact can be shared with the freshman class of WashU engineers each year.



## Balancing Varsity Track and ROTC

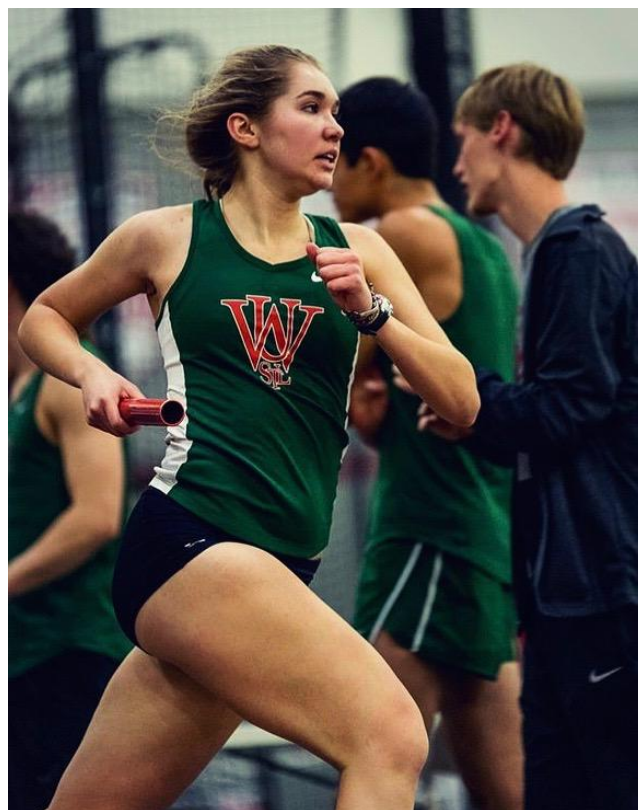
CDT McKenna, Washington University in St. Louis



It's 0530 when my alarm starts blaring. As an ROTC cadet, this is a typical wake up call, but this morning, instead of putting on my black Army Winter PTs, I'm pulling on my red and green Washington University track uniform. It's a Saturday and I find myself boarding a bus headed to Illinois. A month later I'll again find myself on a bus to Illinois for an ROTC FTX in Sparta, but this bus ride is to Illinois Wesleyan College for a Division III track and field meet.

Before college, I had competed in multiple sports, but always had the strongest passion for running. After competing at the state level in cross country and track all four years of high school, my desire to get stronger and faster was not yet satisfied and I decided to pursue college track. Washington University in St. Louis caught my attention and held it: their women's track and field team had just swept indoor and outdoor NCAA Nationals, their academic programs were exactly what I was looking for, and they hosted a top Army ROTC Program.

WashU offered everything that I was passionate about, and everyday it presents me with the challenge to balance all of my passions. Each day is an exhilarating adventure of juggling studies, athletics, ROTC, and a social life. But, each and every day is perfectly me: jam packed with my favorite people, places, and pursuits. Somedays I start with 0600 PT and breakfast with ROTC, attend a day full of classes, meeting up with sorority friends in between, double up on a workout with the track team at 1615, and spend the evening studying for a test the next day. It may sound tiring (and it often is), but most days I am energized by my filled schedule. With the help of time management skills, color coded to-do lists, and a positive mindset, I not only survive each day, but thrive. I love the mix of activities and personalities I am surrounded with and each of them adds to who I am in a dynamic way. I am not just a student and a cadet or just a student-athlete. I'm a student-athlete-cadet and I wouldn't have it any other way.



## MSI Year: Two Perspectives

CDT Sims, Lindenwood University



My two semesters as an MSI at Lindenwood University as a part of the Gateway Battalion have been a drastic change of pace from previous opportunities I have had. I was encouraged by Lieutenant Colonel Gilbertson, a former Army Apache Pilot to look into ROTC. He told me his stories and placed a great deal of pride in his Army experience. From there, I got in contact with Mr. Rodriguez, who laid out the experience for me with much enthusiasm, telling me what it would look like from MSI to MSIV year and all that comes with ROTC.

Fast forward to day one with morning PT. I was quite eager for the start but deeply confused on what to do at any step. I had car-pooled the first day with Cadets Aubuchon, Palmer, and Rainey. On the ride over, they asked familiar questions about myself, gave me a rundown of the basics, and assured me that if I ever needed help they'd be happy to do so. They have not yet let me down when I needed help, whether I knew I needed it or not. I was impressed with the comradery that was present, and I was able to develop myself with others in time.

The classes in Evans Commons were distinctly unique. A diverse group of people with a wrestler, a mother, dancer, Army Reserve member, an intellect, a church official in training, and myself. The other students were a blast getting to know throughout the year either in class, lab, or around the school. The leaders MSG Rabon and CPT Flynn were impressive and focused leaders with distinct but both effective styles of teaching. On class days, the lessons seemed abstract, and sometimes I initially saw the lesson plan with little conviction I'd get much out of it. But time and time again, there was a great ultimate lesson on the impacts of leadership that MSG Rabon revealed at the end. Great impacts that make me look at ROTC and the army all in a stark new way. SSG Wyrick for the second semester was a great instructor. He was never afraid to speak his mind and always encouraged us to do the same. Through that, we learned a great deal of information effectively. I'll never forget the moment I was able to get SSG Wyrick to laugh when we were doing an exercise to get others to guess drawings with as few or as many clues as possible, in order to show the impact of concise versus vague orders. The object was a motorcycle and a saying 'draw a headlight' would have been a dead giveaway, so I said draw a flashlight. We all burst out laughing for the next five minutes. Although this situation may not be a direct piece of the ROTC program, these moments of comradery made the year as enjoyable as it was. The more involved I was, the better everything became, from class to lab, events, and school with other cadets in general.

I have to say my first year was a great one. It was hard trying to feel like I fit in, but after a while that thought disappeared and I was able to enjoy it. If I had to pick the best moment, it would have to be the time MSG Rabon called me up to lead the platoon on my first day. That was the moment I knew this would be an intensive yet fun experience. To this day I have yet to be let down by anything in this program. It may all seem so arbitrary, I applied for the program because it was simply the one at Lindenwood. I spent time with the other cadets because they were a part of the same adventure. But no matter how I got there or where I ended up. All the others had the miraculous ability to make this program home and a family for me, and I look forward to the years to come.





## CDT Keipp, Saint Louis University

I have never grown closer to so many people in such a short amount of time. It wasn't until the Fall FTX that I realized what a close-knit group ROTC is. The absolute misery that is three hours in a Swiss seat can really bond people. I cannot believe I've only been able to call Gateway Battalion home for a year. I have learned so much from class and lab, but even from the upperclassmen. Not once have they made me feel dumb for making them explain every battle drill, uniform regulation, and acronym. With each PT session, they have motivated me, encouraged me, and, most importantly, made me laugh, all before 7 AM. While I am incredibly sad to see them leave, I'm confident that they are all going to do remarkable things, both in the Army and beyond.

Additionally, the cadre I once thought would make me drop and give them 20 for asking innumerable questions have helped shape me into a somewhat tolerable cadet. They are unbelievably patient but also know when to be stern. I hope the new MSI instructor will be able to continue the tradition of messing with the freshmen (NOT hazing) while simultaneously teaching them extremely valuable lessons from how to manage time to how to successfully conduct a raid.

Last but not least, my peers especially have gotten me through this crazy transition. Together we have endured countless APFTs, road trips to WashU, and being late to our 8 AMs by staying a tad too long at our post-PT platoon breakfasts. We push each other to be better every day and challenge each other to get out of our comfort zones. I've had endless opportunities to try new things. Never in a million years would I have thought that I'd be able to rappel down an insanely tall wall, navigate my way through a landscape that all seems to look the same, or properly assemble and disassemble an M16.

To the incoming MSIs, my one piece of advice is to take it all in and look it all up. Listen even when you don't understand and take notes so you can research later. Don't be afraid to ask seemingly insignificant questions and lean on your peers when it seems overwhelming. Be who you are and be that well. These people are going to get to know you at your worst and best. They'll cheer you on when your struggling to get that last push-up and will celebrate with you when you finally understand what MARCH and AVPU mean. Don't beat yourself up over the small things because I promise it will all come easily eventually. While I do have a bit of knowledge about what it takes to survive MSI year, I still have so much to learn and cannot wait to delve into "the Big Army" even more in the fall.





## MSII Perspective

### CDT Messer, Washington University in St. Louis

The closing of the MSII year for Gateway Detachment's sophomore cadets marks the end of their introductory phase of the program. Looking to the past, this class can clearly see their small beginnings as MSIs and the slow transition to soon-to-be MSIIIs. Over the past two years, we have learned the basic warrior skills necessary to be a soldier, and, perhaps more importantly, the invaluable ability to follow. Looking to the future, my classmates and I will be billeted with leadership, both officially and unofficially. Come fall 2018, we will hit the ground running with a newfound intensity of training, responsibility, and cohesion.

A cadet's MSII year is a year of refinement and initiative. Throughout our second year, the MSII cadets have used PT, labs, and class to perfect the basic warrior skills needed to succeed at Advanced Camp and in the Army. Building on our base of knowledge from the MSI year, we have been able to not only increase proficiency in skills such as call for fire, tactical combat casualty care (TCCC), and teamwork, but we were able to impart some of our expertise to MSIs. In some ways, the MSII year is simply a review of the MSI year and can be treated as such. However, this year also presents the greatest opportunities found through initiative – without the heightened responsibilities of being an MSIII, MSIIIs can create a real presence within the program through color guards, Ranger Challenge teams, GAFBMP, and opportunities of the same nature – all by our individual choices. Because MSIIIs are not held to the same demands as MSIIIs, those who put in the extra time and effort will stand out.

Throughout this year, we have looked at the leadership of MSIIIs and MSIVs in order to determine how we will lead when we are in their shoes. Perhaps this is the most important part of the MSII year – how we view our leadership will affect us as IIIs, IVs, and eventually, 2LTs. Within a few months, these learned traits will be put to the test as our class tackles FTX, PT, and responsibility on a new level.

Though the halfway point of undergrad and ROTC is terribly bittersweet, the future promises to be bigger and better for Gateway's MSIIIs. Using our lessons and experience from the past two years, we will drive headlong into the throes of the MSIII and MSIV years on the route to becoming Army second lieutenants.



## From the Gateway Archives: Camp Advice from the 1980's

CDT Brooks, Washington University in St. Louis

This year, the S-5 team has been working on organizing the Gateway Historical Archives, which includes clippings, photographs, and documents from the Gateway Battalion. We are hoping to feature some of our findings in the Gateway Gazette each semester to pay respect to our rich and important history. This semester, with MSIIIs preparing for camp, we thought it would timely to share some camp advice from Cadets in the class of 1983. Check out some of the tips below!



- "First and foremost, I would recommend you be physically fit. Secondly, be as proficient as possible in land navigation and third, have an open mind towards the training."
- "Make sure that you are very knowledgeable of all leadership positions from squad leader to company commander."
- "Be mentally prepared to deal with the time factor -- waking up early in the morning, going to bed late at night, and all work in between. I would stress being physically fit because the weather is hot and muggy."
- "Learn to perform land nav skills correctly before coming to camp."
- "Future cadets should concentrate more on drill and ceremony before they get here. Marching and cadence calling is a very important part of Advanced Camp."
- "You need to prepare yourself to accept the change of environment. The civilian world is very lax and doesn't require much personal discipline, but once you get in a military environment, the whole picture changes."
- "The really important thing is to get your attitude together. Realize that this is the Army and prepare yourself for long hours and a lot of pressure to achieve."

Source: Bell, SSG William W. "What advice do you have for those attending Advanced Camp next year?" *The Kalediscope*. July 13, 1983.

See the full article on the next page for more!

Page 6

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

July 13, 1983

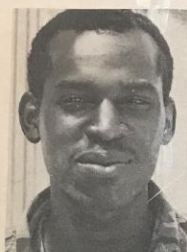
## Cadet Comments:

*"What advice do you have for those attending Advanced Camp next year?"*



**Robert Q. Ake**  
Southwest Texas  
State University

"First and foremost, I would recommend you be physically fit. Secondly, be as proficient as possible in land navigation and third, have an open mind towards the training."



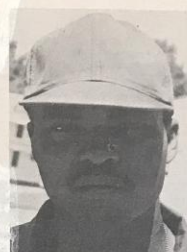
**LaPonce Johnson**  
University of Illinois

"Make sure that you are very knowledgeable of all leadership positions from squad leader to company commander."



**Gordon K. Nanton**  
University of Texas  
at San Antonio

"Be mentally prepared to deal with the time factor — waking up early in the morning, going to bed late at night, and all work in between. I would stress being physically fit because the weather is hot and muggy."



**Michael P. Cavalier**  
Nicholls State University

"Learn to perform land nav skills correctly before coming to camp."



**Gerard Williams**  
Acorn State University

"Future cadets should concentrate more on drill and ceremony before they get here. Marching and cadence calling is a very important part of Advanced Camp."



**Daniel Mobley**  
Alabama A&M University

"Become very well versed in map reading so that you'll be prepared for land navigation. Run in the sun so that you'll be conditioned for the heat here. Take some swimming classes if you don't know how to swim."



**Jack L. Farley**  
University of Louisville

"Be receptive to the training and be proficient in drill and ceremony."



**Karen L. Maxfield**  
Henderson State University

"Being a female, the advice I would offer to other females is to come with the attitude of a soldier and not a female. There are only two types of officers — weak and strong, not male and female."



**Phil Godwin**  
Memphis State University

"You should get in contact with your cadre at school or MS IV students and find out exactly what goes on at camp. Be prepared to know your drill and ceremony, PT, and land nav. And more than anything, cooperate with your fellow cadets once you are here."



**Emma Clopton**  
University of Alabama

"You need to prepare yourself to accept the change of environment. The civilian world is very lax and doesn't require as much personal discipline, but once you get in a military environment the whole picture changes."



**Richard Snead**  
Kent State University

"The really important thing is to get your attitude together. Realize that this is the Army and prepare yourself for long hours and a lot of pressure to achieve."



**James Kenyon**  
Texas A&M University

"Be in great shape and know your drill and ceremony."

Interviews and photos by Sgt. William W. Beil



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## **Advice from a Cadet O'Halloran, a Top 10 Ranked Cadet for the Class of 2018**

Cadet Cormac O'Halloran was ranked in the Top 10 of all cadets in the nation for his accessions class. We asked him to give us some insight about his success and share advice for Cadets striving to make their mark in ROTC.

### **How I found out about my Top 10 ranking:**

I found out from a letter I received from General Hughes this past October. My first reaction was to think that whatever system decided that I was a top ten Cadet in the nation probably has some flaws. I have met at least ten cadets in my year grade superior to me, and I have met only a tiny fraction of those many thousands.

### **What I did to get here:**


I participated in, and later captained, Ranger Challenge and Ranger Buddy Challenge. I did the Bataan Memorial Death March and the German Armed Forces Badge Competition my MS1 year. I did CULP and basic camp between my MS1 and MS2 year, and Airborne and Air Assault in subsequent summers. I also tried to pursue extracurriculars outside of ROTC, not just because they bump up your OML, but more importantly because you need some sort of balance between ROTC and college or you won't be able to get much joy out of your four years here.

### **Key leaders I met along the way:**

First off, SSG Wyrick. He was the first person to show me just how good an Army NCO can be, and he was all the proof I ever needed. I worked closely with him for three years, and much of the growth I underwent in that time I would attribute to the wisdom and patience with which he mentored me and the rest of my classmates. I hope I can provide a fraction of that for my soldiers. I would also attribute a large portion of my development to the MSIV peers that I've worked alongside of and lived with the past four years. They are a remarkable group of people and they inspire me to want to serve with the utmost efficacy and integrity I can manage. Although I did not know LTC Snell very well up until my senior year, he also provided a clear example to me and my classmates of what a true leader looks like, and that gave us something to strive for. And of course none of this would be possible without Ms. Jackson, Ms. Forrest, Ms. Scalzitti, and Mr. Lee.

### **Future plans:**

I will be starting Military Intelligence Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC) in June. After that, my orders are to the 82nd Airborne.



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**Lessons learned:**

Certain lessons I have learned (mostly through failure) are to listen to your NCOs, be able to tell the difference between what is and what is not important, begin to fish out and attack implied tasks as soon as you possibly can, and remember that how smart or how good or how right you think you are, you will never maintain success unless you can learn to humble yourself and listen to others.

**My best advice:**

Do not worry about your rankings. There are so many Cadets who lust after a certain ranking or position or scrap of paper telling them that they are special all in order to fill up a sort of hollowness inside of them. But trying to satisfy that hunger with the fruits of your bureaucratic ambitions is like eating with a tapeworm in your belly. No matter how much you have you will never be satisfied, and the parasite inside of you will only grow bigger. If I have one piece of advice to offer Cadets it is this: remember that there are few decisions more consequential and more dangerous than your choice of what to pride yourself on. If you choose to outsource your self-esteem to Cadet Command, and pride yourself on a number given to you by someone you will never meet (and a number they can easily take away from you), then you will be haunted by a constant fear of failure. Fear of failure is pointless. Failure is inevitable. The only way failure can possibly be avoided is for you to avoid challenges worthy of your abilities, and there is far more shame in that than in failure. Fear of failure is also debilitating. If you lead out of personal ambition and fear of failure then you will always falter, you will always hesitate when you need to be decisive, or else you will overcompensate. But if you pride yourself instead on serving honorably, and trying to live the Army Values, and waking up each day to do the best you can at an important job (and make no mistake, training yourself and your peers to lead soldiers is an important job), then not only will you be a happier and healthier person, you will be a better leader. People can tell when you are leading out of dedication to the cause, and they will be more inclined to follow you. Pride yourself on those things that cannot be taken from you, on those things that you control. There is not much that you can absolutely control (in the Army we mostly just “influence”), but your character is one such thing. No one can take your integrity from you but you. This is all easier said than done. Still, working at this mindset is necessary, I think, in order to stay sane in this line of work.



## How Do You Get Involved at Gateway ROTC?

*Whether you're a prospective Cadet, a parent interested in what your child does in the ROTC, an alumni wanting to look back into the program, or wanting to give back, we are here to help.*

### Gateway Battalion website:

[rotc.wustl.edu](http://rotc.wustl.edu)

### Like us on Facebook:

[Facebook.com/GatewayROTC](https://www.facebook.com/GatewayROTC)



**I'm a prospective Cadet and would like to observe some of your training events, or classes. Who should I contact to schedule this?**

Mr. Lee Rodriguez in the Gateway Recruiting Office can help you schedule appointment. His contact details are:

(314) 935-5521

[lee.e.rodriguez@wustl.edu](mailto:lee.e.rodriguez@wustl.edu)



**I'm in the National Guard, or Reserves. How do I get involved with ROTC?**



Mr. Gary Lee is the Program Coordinator and has over 27 years of experience helping Cadets achieve their goals.

(314) 935-5546

[glee@wustl.edu](mailto:glee@wustl.edu)

### How Can you Support the Gateway Battalion?

**You can make donations online through the Gateway Battalion's GoFundMe account using the following address:**

<https://www.gofundme.com/gatewayROTC>

**Donations made through Washington University are fully tax deductible.**

**You can make checks payable to:**

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Go to [gifts.wustl.edu/giftform.aspx](https://gifts.wustl.edu/giftform.aspx)  
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#### Other:

To donate time, money or equipment, or other resources outside of Washington University channels, please contact the Professor of Military Science.